

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

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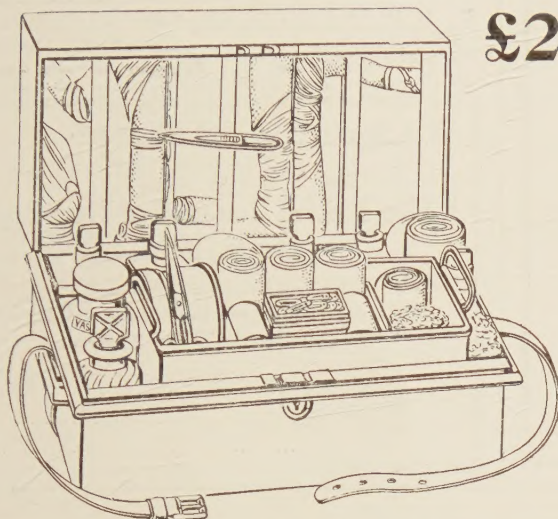
THE NURSING RECORD

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MARCH 31ST, 1917

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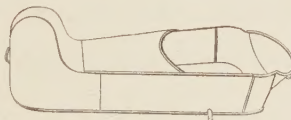


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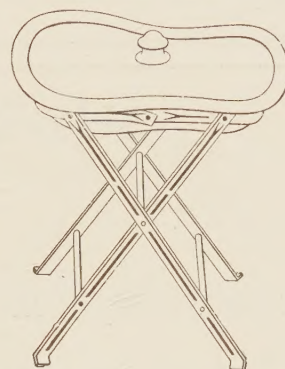
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March.....1917.

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Signature

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Address

Date 19

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Editorial Communications to be addressed to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole Street, London, W.

N.B.—All communications in respect to Advertisements or business matters must be addressed to
The Manager, THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING, 431, Oxford Street, London, W.

Phone—1712 Gerrard.

SPECIAL NOTICE.

Owing to the Easter Holidays it is necessary to go to press with our issue of April 7th a day earlier than usual. All advertisements for insertion in this issue must therefore reach the Manager, BRITISH JOURNAL of NURSING, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1, not later than Tuesday Morning, April 3rd.

OFFICIAL NOTICE.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD FOR SCOTLAND.

Applications should be lodged, forthwith, for the next examination of the Board, which will take place at Edinburgh, Glasgow, Dundee and Aberdeen (provided a sufficient number of candidates enter at each centre), on Monday, 30th April, 1917. Schedules, &c., may be obtained from Mr. D. L. Eadie, Secretary, 50, George Square, Edinburgh. 180

HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES, ETC.

IRISH COUNTIES WAR HOSPITAL.

The Committee invite applications for the post of MATRON to the above Hospital, which is situated in Dublin. (260 Beds.) Salary £150 per annum, with Apartments, Board, and Laundry. Candidates must be at least 30 years of age.

SISTERS, STAFF NURSES, JUNIOR NURSES also REQUIRED. Salaries £50 £40, £25, respectively. Apply, HON. SECRETARY, 14, Dawson Street, Dublin. 175

CARNARVON COTTAGE HOSPITAL.

The Executive Committee of the above Hospital (12 beds) invite applications for the post of MATRON, at a salary of £50 per annum.

And also a fully-qualified STAFF NURSE, at a salary of £30 per annum. In both cases a knowledge of Welsh is desirable, but not essential.

Applications, with copies of three recent testimonials, to be sent to the undersigned by 11th APRIL, and endorsed "Matron" or "Staff Nurse."

W. S. JONES,
Honorary Secretary.
25, Market Street, Carnarvon. 188

HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF BOURNE-MOUTH FEVER HOSPITAL.

SISTER REQUIRED. General certificate and Fever experience. Capable Ward Manager. Salary £40 and Uniform. PROBATIONER (educated) REQUIRED. Two years' training. Salary £15 and £18, with Uniform. Apply MATRON. 190

SELLEY OAK INFIRMARY, BIRMINGHAM.

The Guardians invite applications for the appointment of WARD SISTERS at Selley Oak Infirmary, Birmingham.

Salary £38 per annum, increasing to £42 per annum on approved service, together with Residence, Rations, Uniform, and Laundry.

Candidates must be trained, certificated nurses, with at least four years' nursing experience, and capable of assisting in the training of probationers.

Apply at once for forms of application, enclosing stamped addressed foolscap envelope, to the MATRON at the Infirmary.

R. J. CURTIS,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Union Offices,
Edmund Street,
Birmingham.
27th March, 1917. 178

HAMPSTEAD MILITARY HOSPITAL (New End Section).

WANTED, for additional staff, a SISTER and STAFF NURSES at Army rates of pay. The applications to be made in writing, accompanied by names and addresses of first and last Matrons, and sent to

H. WESTBURY PRESTON,
Clerk to the Guardians.

New End, Hampstead, N.W. 3. 176

REIGATE AND REDHILL GENERAL HOSPITAL.

WANTED a gentlewoman with three years' general training as NIGHT SISTER. Salary £40, with Uniform and Laundry. Apply MATRON. 183

WANTED at the Brook War Hospital, Shooter's Hill, Woolwich:—

(a) STAFF NURSES. Must possess certificate of 3 years' training in a recognised training school for nurses. Salary £40, rising by £2 10s. annually to £45, with Board, Lodging, Washing, Uniform, and allowance of £8 per annum.

(b) PROBATIONERS, age not less than 19. Salary £20, with Board, Lodging, Washing, and Uniform.

Apply to the Matron, Miss BANN. 187

HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

TERRITORIAL FORCE NURSING SERVICE.

FIRST SOUTHERN GENERAL HOSPITAL.

STAFF NURSES REQUIRED on Extension of Hospital. Must hold three years' certificate from a recognised Training School. Salary, £40; with Uniform Allowance, Board, &c.

Also ASSISTANT NURSES, who must hold a Certificate of not less than two years' training in a Fever Hospital, or Hospital for Women or Children, or have had two years' experience in a General Hospital. Salary, £30; with Uniform Allowance, Board, &c.

Apply to MISS MUSSON, Principal Matron, T.F.N.S., General Hospital, Birmingham. 144

SALFORD UNION INFIRMARY.

WANTED, WAR PROBATIONERS for period of six months in the first instance, with renewal of engagement if both sides agree. Previous experience not requisite. The nurses will be required for service in the Military or Civilian Wards of the Hospital, or in the wards of the temporary Infirmary.

Salary £15 a year with Uniform and residential allowances.

Suitable candidates will be given the opportunity of accepting training in the Infirmary, which is a recognised training school.

Applications at once to the MATRON, Hope, Pendleton, near Manchester.

By Order,
E. H. INCHLEY,
Clerk to the Guardians.

Poor Law Offices,
Eccles New Road,
Salford.
27th March, 1917. 186

PROBATIONER NURSES WANTED for the Workhouse Infirmary, Portsmouth.

Salary £10 for first year, £14 second year, and £18 third year, with Lodgings, Rations, Washing, and Uniform.

Candidates must be between 21 and 35 years.

Full particulars from the MATRON, Workhouse Infirmary, Milton, Portsmouth.

By Order,
E. H. MITCHELL,
Clerk.

14th March, 1917. 190

WANTED, PROBATIONERS. Must be well educated. Age not under 18.

Salary first year £12, second year £16. Uniform material provided.

Apply MATRON, Royal Liverpool Country Hospital for Children, Heswall, Cheshire. 191

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A Branch of the Society has been opened in Manchester, where Examinations are already held, and Lectures given. The Society is approved by the Medical Profession, and its certificate-holders may not undertake cases without the permission of a registered practitioner.

The Certificate of the Society is a qualification accepted by the War Office for work amongst the wounded, and over 900 certificate-holders are at present working in Military and Red Cross Hospitals, Convalescent Camps, &c.

For further information apply to the Secretary—

157, GREAT PORTLAND STREET, LONDON, W.

Telephone: MAYFAIR 4189.

HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

COUNTY BOROUGH OF MERTHYR TYDFIL.

APPOINTMENT OF SCHOOL NURSE, HEALTH VISITOR, AND INSPECTOR OF MIDWIVES.

Applications are invited for the above post under the Education and Health Committees. The successful candidate will be required to devote her whole time to the duties allocated to her by the above-mentioned Committees.

Candidates should possess (1) a certificate of training in a recognised Hospital, and (2) the C.M.B. certificate. Additional qualifications and experience of similar work will be a recommendation.

The candidate appointed must reside in the district allocated to her.

Salary £80, advancing by annual increments of £10 to £100 per annum with an allowance of £5 for Uniform, and 2s. per week War Bonus.

Form of application may be obtained from the undersigned, and must be returned not later than MONDAY, 2nd April, 1917.

RHYS ELIAS,
Director of Education.

Town Hall, Merthyr Tydfil,
14th March, 1917. 192

BOROUGH OF CHELMSFORD. APPOINTMENT OF HEALTH VISITOR AND SCHOOL NURSE.

The Town Council of Chelmsford invite applications for the appointment of lady HEALTH VISITOR and SCHOOL NURSE.

The person appointed will be required to devote her whole time to the duties of the office, and act under the instructions of the Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer. Candidates must possess the certificate of the Central Midwives Board, and preference will be given to applicants who have passed the Sanitary Inspector's or Health Visitor's Examination.

The salary will be at the rate of £100 per annum, with Uniform and Bicycle.

Forms of application can be obtained at the Municipal Offices, 16, London Road, Chelmsford, or will be forwarded on receipt of a stamped addressed foolscap envelope.

Applications on the prescribed form, accompanied by copies of three recent testimonials, and endorsed "Health Visitor and School Nurse," must be delivered to me by not later than SATURDAY, 7th April, 1917.

GEORGE MELVIN,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Offices, Chelmsford.
14th March, 1917. 193

IMPORTANT TO ADVERTISERS.

"The British Journal of Nursing" circulates widely amongst educated women, both lay and professional.

HOSPITAL AND POOR LAW VACANCIES ETC.—continued.

BOROUGH OF CHESTERFIELD. HEALTH VISITOR.

The Health Committee REQUIRE a HEALTH VISITOR for Infant Welfare Work.

The duties consist of visiting notified births and attendance at the Baby Clinics. Salary £100 per annum.

Applicants must be fully-trained Nurses, and preference will be given to those holding the C.M.B. certificate and experienced in children's diseases.

Forms of application may be obtained from the undersigned, to whom the application must be forwarded not later than MONDAY, 16th April, 1917.

R. FRASER,

Medical Officer of Health.
Health Office,
Saltergate,
Chesterfield. 179

COUNTY BOROUGH OF GRIMSBY. FEMALE HEALTH VISITOR.

The Corporation of Grimsby invite applications from properly qualified Hospital-trained Nurses for the appointment of Female HEALTH VISITOR for Maternity and Infant Welfare and Tuberculosis Work.

Candidates must hold the C.M.B. certificate, and preference will be given to candidates holding a certificate in Health Visiting or as a Sanitary Inspector.

Commencing salary £90 per annum, rising to £100 by two annual increments of £5 each, together with an allowance of £5 per annum for Uniform.

Applications, in candidates' own handwriting, stating age, present employment, and qualifications, and endorsed "Health Visitor," to be delivered to me, with copies of not more than three recent testimonials, not later than MONDAY, 2nd April, 1917.

Canvassing will disqualify.

JOHN W. JACKSON,
Town Clerk.

Municipal Buildings,
170, Victoria Street, Grimsby. 194

APPOINTMENTS VACANT.

SISTER WANTED (General trained preferred), for alternate day and night duty. Salary, £35, rising £5 annually to £45, and Uniform. 94 Beds. Apply, with testimonials, ACTING MATRON, Durham County Sanatorium, Wolsingham, Co. Durham. 196

NIGHT SISTER WANTED at once. Hospital 35 beds. Salary £40, indoor Uniform. Apply MATRON, Nelson Hospital, Merton, S.W. 184

WANTED.—TRAINED NURSE. Capable, kind, tactful, strong, for lady 88. Senile decay. State salary. Photo. ANDERSON, Langdale, Leckhampton, Cheltenham. 182

APPOINTMENTS VACANT.—continued.

ASSISTANT NURSE for small Surgical Home, with one year's Hospital experience. Must be domesticated. Apply, MATRON, Private Nursing Home, Linthorpe, Middlesbrough. 185

A PROBATIONER WANTED at the London Lock Hospital, Harrow Road, W. Salary £15, rising to £18, with Uniform. Must be interested in Rescue Work. Apply to the SECRETARY, from whom all particulars can be obtained. 177

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE FOR NURSES.

DISTRICT NURSING.—Fully-trained NURSES REQUIRED to qualify as Queen's Nurses.

Apply to the GENERAL SUPERINTENDENT, Queen Victoria's Jubilee Institute for Nurses, 58, Victoria Street, London, S.W.

Applicants are invited to call at the above address on Thursdays, between 2 and 4 p.m. Interviews may be arranged on other days by appointment. 5

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Pupils specially trained in Midwifery and Monthly Nursing and for the Examination of the Central Midwives Board. 1,100 In-patients and 658 Out-patients in 1916.

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EAST END MOTHERS' LYING-IN HOME,

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THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING

WITH WHICH IS INCORPORATED
THE NURSING RECORD
EDITED BY MRS BEDFORD FENWICK

No. 1,513.

SATURDAY, MARCH 31, 1917.

Vol. LVIII.

EDITORIAL.

LIBERTY THE SURE SAFEGUARD OF PEACE.

The message of the Prime Minister of this country to the Russian Premier is one worthy of the head of the Government of a nation in arms in the cause of freedom. Mr. Lloyd George said in part: "I believe that the revolution whereby the Russian people have based their destinies on the sure foundation of freedom, is the greatest service which they have yet made to the cause for which the Allied peoples have been fighting since August, 1914.

"It reveals the fundamental truth that this war is at bottom a struggle for popular government as well as for liberty. It shows that, through the war, the principle of liberty, which is the only sure safeguard of peace in the world, has already won one resounding victory. . . .

"Freedom is the condition of peace, and I do not doubt, that, as a result of the establishment of a stable Constitutional Government within their borders, the Russian people will be strengthened in their resolve to prosecute this war until the last stronghold of tyranny on the continent of Europe is destroyed, and the free peoples of all lands can unite to secure for themselves and their children the blessings of fraternity and peace."

These words find an echo in the hearts of many nurses in the United Kingdom, whose struggle for the organization of their profession for over a quarter of a century, has, at bottom, been a struggle for popular government as well as for liberty. Over and over again this has been apparent. There is no magic in registration if the conditions under which it is carried out are not just, and neither in the government of a nation, nor of a pro-

fession, is domination by an autocracy just, for it excludes recognition of the will of the people, that "government by consent" which is the sure foundation of freedom.

That is the main point at issue between the Central Committee for the State Registration of Nurses and the College of Nursing, Ltd.—Is the first Governing Body set up under an Act of Parliament to consist of 45 nominated persons, or is this first (or provisional) General Nursing Council—which will frame the rules which the Registered Nurses will have to obey—to include the direct representatives of the self-governing societies of nurses associated together in the Central Committee?

To those who have only recently given their adhesion to the principle of State Registration the point may not seem a vital one, but its importance is well understood both by the Central Committee and by the advisers of the Chairman of the Council of the College of Nursing.

This is evident from the fact that, according to Mr. Stanley's promise, the name of the Central Committee, with that of the College of Nursing, was printed in one draft of the Bill promoted by the College, and provision made for the election of an equal number of representatives of both bodies on the first Council. Had no principle been incorporated in this clause there was no reason for it to be altered. But the fact that it conceded to the self-governing societies of nurses freedom to appoint direct representatives on the provisional Council, was sufficient to make the opposition of the forces of re-action on the College Council so strong as to secure its deletion from the College Bill. The principle involved is the principle of professional liberty, and, as with a nation, so with a profession, the principle of liberty is the only sure safeguard of peace.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITION.

WHAT IS A CIVIC NURSE? GIVE AN IDEA OF HER TRUE RELATIONSHIP TO THE MUNICIPALITY AND PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICE.

We have pleasure in awarding the prize this week to Miss Catharine Wright, 2, Dryden Road, Bush Hill Park, Enfield.

PRIZE PAPER.

The civic nurse is one whose work lies amongst the civil population of a town or district, and she is responsible to the Municipal or Health Authorities appointing her, the Medical Officer of Health arranging most of her work and receiving her reports, bearing on the sanitary, hygienic, and health conditions of her sphere of action.

The appointment is that of a Health Visitor, and in very large towns these duties are divided amongst several nurses, each having separate and distinct work, one doing Health Visiting and Lecturing, another the Tuberculosis Work, and another acting as School Nurse.

In smaller towns or districts these duties are combined, the Health Visitor being solely responsible.

The nurse appointed should be fully trained, with additional qualifications of a certified midwife, special district training, holding also a Sanitary or Health Certificate from a recognized Sanitary Institute where students may receive this special training.

With this knowledge she is able to meet with equanimity the difficulties and problems which arise, and which must be overcome tactfully and pleasantly if her work is to be carried on successfully.

It may be that she is the first Health Visitor appointed to the district, and her position not quite understood by the inhabitants amongst whom she must work, gradually her power for good will be realized, and her advice sought and acted upon readily.

She will understand so exactly the difficulties of the over-burdened working wife and mother, and may be able to suggest simple, economical methods of cooking and housewifery.

She may have opportunities of ante-natal work, impressing upon the expectant mothers (especially the very young women) simple hygienic rules which may ensure their own well-being and that of the future child.

After the period of parturition she may observe if all goes well with mother and child, advising attendance at the school for mothers, or organizing a school if one is not already in existence.

This may very much reduce the infant mortality of the district, because at these schools young mothers are taught to feed the children and to safeguard them from many evils which follow on wrong feeding and wrongly prepared food.

When visiting the schools the early detection of ear and eye and skin affections are of great importance, and may be brought under medical supervision without delay, and the children receive an idea of the importance of detailed cleanliness as they are prepared and made ready for medical inspection.

The tuberculosis cases will be visited, the home conditions arranged to the best advantage for preventing the spread of infection, and any suggestions of open-air treatment advised by the Medical Officer simplified and carried out.

Dispensary patients may also receive her attention, she arranging for the supplies of milk and other nourishment arranged by the doctor, and the charts of weight and feeding kept in order.

There may be opportunities of simple home talks to the working girls, teaching them the importance of hygienic carefulness with regard to themselves.

The result of her work, visiting and inspecting, will be incorporated in reports, and given in at intervals to her Medical Officer, who will estimate her value in the good and improved conditions of her district.

In the performance of these duties there will be other nurses and social workers to meet, but, with a sympathetic and zealous interest, these workers may combine and share in the general well-being, knowing that "knowledge is power," and that healthier dwellings make happier individuals, healthy conditions will follow, and the children, as future citizens of the empire, be helped to attain their rightful status, physically and socially.

HONOURABLE MENTION.

The following competitors receive honourable mention:—Miss G. L. Sheppard, Miss M. Martin, Miss J. Ward.

Miss G. L. Sheppard writes:—"The true relationship of a civic nurse to the municipality, and public health, is one of helpfulness—to prevent the spread of disease, to build up the health and physique of the Empire, and is indeed a truly patriotic work."

QUESTION FOR NEXT WEEK.

How would you render first aid to a patient suffering from burns in a workman's cottage, where few remedies were available, and what steps would you take to secure the efficient nursing of the patient?

NOTES ON "CARREL" TREATMENT.

"Carrel" is the antiseptic now so largely used for dressing wounds, and was first discovered or evolved in the laboratories in Edinburgh and Cambridge. It was originally known by the name of its discoverer, Dr. Dakin. It is now prepared commercially in England and sold under the name of Eusol, in the form of two powders, to be mixed and filtered just before use. In France the antiseptic is called after Dr. Carrel, of Compiègne, who has brought it to a high state of perfection.

The liquid is actually a solution of hypochlorous acid, produced by the trituration of chloride of lime (bleaching powder) in a solution of carbonate and bicarbonate of soda. By this means calcium carbonate (chalk) is thrown down and filtered away, and hypochlorous acid left in solution. As this is well known to be an unstable compound, particularly under the influence of light, the antiseptic must be prepared afresh each day.

It has a caustic effect on healthy skin, which must therefore be protected from contact with it. It has also, of course, a strongly bleaching action, the result of the chlorine set free by the decomposition of the liquid.

The following notes are taken from a lecture given by Dr. Depage at the Hôpital de l'Océan, La Panne, Belgium.

"In the course of a visit recently paid to the Ambulance of Dr. Carrel at Compiègne, I was able to note that the treatment of wounds, as at first instituted, has been brought to a high pitch of perfection, the methods have become more and more systematised, empiricism has been left behind, and the results in every case are checked by a bacteriological examination, and by a close study of the progress of cicatrisation.

The following are the essential points of the present treatment :—

(1) Directly the patient enters the hospital, the wound is thoroughly washed with oleate of soda, and, if necessary, prepared for operation.

(2) The cleansing, trimming, and curetting of the wound also take place immediately.

It is still a moot point whether, in the case of fracture, the splinters are to be removed or not. Some operators remove them all. I have also seen cases in an American hospital where the surgeons remove none at all. The practice in Dr. Carrel's ambulance is to remove only those splinters which are almost entirely detached, and only when it appears certain that their removal will have no bad effect upon the consolidation of the bone.

(3) The nerves and tendons belonging to the wound are sutured immediately in spite of the Carrel treatment. The suturing is done with chromated catgut, which remains unaffected by the Dakin solution, so fatal to silk. The Dakin solution does not prevent the union of these nerves and tendons. The wound is naturally left open.

(4) Directly these preliminaries are completed, the Carrel tubes are placed in position. These are always of the same diameter, and are placed freely, to the number of one or more, according to the size of the wound. When it is necessary to place several tubes in one wound or in neighbouring wounds, the mouths of these are connected and fitted into a little glass mouthpiece with several openings.

The wound is not plugged unless there is hæmorrhage, a simple gauze compress being placed over the opening, the tubes reaching to the bottom of the wound, so as to irrigate it completely. Irrigation drop by drop has been abandoned, and injections every two hours, though the latter method has some advantages in certain ambulances on account of its simplicity. The method adopted at present is irrigation under pressure every two hours. The Dakin solution is placed in a special graduated vessel hung above the foot of the bed, and put into communication with the wound by means of a rubber tube. Every two hours the nurse opens the "pince de Mohr" (a clip which closes the tube) and allows to pass a quantity of the liquid proportionate to the size of the wound.

Burns are treated with the same solution applied to the wound on compresses, which are renewed twice a day. On first treating a burn, the solution is used of half the strength on account of the pain; later, the normal strength is sufficient. The efficacy of Dakin's solution has been shown by many experiments, amongst others by a recent case of a patient with multiple wounds. All the wounds save one were treated by the Carrel method, and that one developed gas gangrene.

(5) To avoid burning the surrounding tissues, Carrel uses yellow vaseline spread on small compresses, which are sterilised in an enamel vessel.

(6) To keep the wound clean and help it in its sterilisation, Carrel has the wounds and the surrounding parts washed with a neutral solution of oleate of soda. He does not permit the smallest impurity or concretion to remain on the skin in the neighbourhood of the wound, these being always fertile sources of microbic infection. The wounds in the ambulance at Compiègne are of the most perfect cleanliness.

Carrel does not permit the use of ether, hydrogen peroxide, alcohol, &c., in the dressing of wounds: nothing but irrigation with the Dakin solution, and washing with oleate of soda. Besides these, he always uses an anti-septic unguent free from fat. As the formula of this is not fully established, it has not yet been made public.

(7) The dressings are renewed once or twice a day. These are simply compresses of thin gauze, above which is placed a pad of cotton wool wrapped in gauze. The vaseline compresses may be left in place for two days.

(8) A check on the bacteriological condition is established from the first day. For this purpose a scraping from the wound on a glass film is sent to the laboratory.

(9) In the case of shallow wounds, at the end of twenty-four hours there is a notable diminution of the number of microbes, and four days later they have usually completely disappeared. In the case of deep hollow wounds, sterilisation is effected between the 6th and the 25th day.

When this desired result is obtained, the wound is either sutured or the flat dressings continued, according to circumstances.

(10) If the conditions are favourable, the wound is closed directly the sterilisation is complete, that is to say, usually on the 7th or 8th day, either by a suture of "crin de Florence," after simple trimming of the edges, or by means of adhesive plaster. The latter is not previously sterilised, but it is of very good quality, and is considered to be aseptic. It is placed perpendicularly or parallel to the edges of the wound. In the latter case a strip of plaster of appropriate size, provided with "button hooks," is placed on either side of the wound, and the "hooks" are brought together by means of a thread of silk. They are, of course, placed in position aseptically. Usually the suturing takes place on the 8th day in the case of simple wounds.

If a bony hollow persists after asepsis of the wound is complete, the bone is often filled by Mosetig's process. Sometimes the wound is left open and the filling eliminates itself gradually. This process is particularly useful in obtaining asepsis within the bone. In favourable cases the skin is sutured and the filling remains in the bone. In some cases Bech's paste is used to keep fistulous tracts in an aseptic condition, but these methods did not absolutely convince me. I saw a wound of the foot which had been filled after sterilisation. The filling had gradually been eliminated, and the foot had healed.

(11) If the edges of the wound cannot be

joined, an autoplasmic operation is carried out, or the flat treatment of the wound is continued as described above. In this case the Carrel tube is placed flat on the wound, with a compress below, or directly on the wound, which is surrounded with vaseline compresses.

(12) From the point of view of surgical intervention, they rightly consider at Compiègne that there are three periods:—

(1) The period immediately after the wound has been inflicted. The right moment for operation.

(2) The transition period towards the fourth day. Asepsis of the wound is not yet assured, and chronic infection may set in. Intervention at this period is to be avoided as far as possible.

(3) Period of chronic infection: intervention must now take place if necessary.

(13) *The preparation of Dakin's liquid.*—The quality of the liquid is most important. It must be absolutely neutral, and is prepared daily at Compiègne according to the following formula:

Preparation of the hydro-chlorous solution in Dr. Carrel's Ambulance.

(1) In order to prepare 10 litres of solution, weigh accurately:—

(a) Chloride of lime, 200 grammes; dry carbonate of soda (Solway's carbonate), 100 grammes; bicarbonate of soda, 80 grammes.

(b) Place in a 12-litre flask the 200 grammes of chloride and 5 litres of plain water, shake several times, and leave all night.

(c) Dissolve the carbonate and bicarbonate in 5 litres of cold water.

(d) Pour the soda solution rapidly into the flask containing the chloride, shake well, and then allow time for the calcium carbonate (chalk) to settle.

(e) After half an hour, syphon off the clear liquid and filter through paper in order to obtain a perfectly clean liquid, which must be kept screened from the light.

(f) The preparation of the neutral "oleate of soda" is carried out in the ordinary manner with oleic acid.

(g) The examination for, and staining of, microbes is carried out from the scraping from the wound, as mentioned above. The staining is done with carbolised thiomine, contact of a minute or a minute and a half is sufficient, after which the slide is washed, dried, and examined.

(h) Study of the curve of cicatrisation. This is only necessary in the case of surface

wounds. The measuring of the surface of the wound is carried out every fourth day as follows:—

(1) The surface of the wound and of the epithelial edge is traced on a sterilised sheet of celluloid tissue (celophane).

(2) The sheet is sent to the laboratory and copied (retraced).

(3) The two outlines are measured by means of a planimeter, and the curve is traced and recorded every day on a special form.

NURSING AND THE WAR.

THE ROYAL RED CROSS.

On Saturday last the following Matrons, Sisters and Nurses were decorated by the King at Buckingham Palace with the Royal Red Cross:—

FIRST CLASS.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

Matrons: Helen Hare and Ethel St. Quintin.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE RESERVE.

Matrons: Maud Banfield, Sarah Brown, Mary Carruthers, Margaret Morgan, Bessie Stephenson, Clara Tisdell.

Sisters: Mary Babb and Elizabeth Jayne.

CIVIL NURSING SERVICE.

Matrons: Georgina Morgan and Katherine Scott.

SECOND CLASS.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE.

Matrons: Irene Carruthers and Mary McCabe.

QUEEN ALEXANDRA'S IMPERIAL MILITARY NURSING SERVICE RESERVE.

Matron: Ethel Beloe.

Assistant Matrons: Mary Cooper, Louie Lane.

Sisters: Edith Bell, Kathleen Bolton, Grace Bond, Winifred Butcher, Isabella Carnaghan, Winifred Chapman, Ada Clarke, Margaret Clarke, Constance Douet, Katherine Fancourt, Phyllis Gibbins, Pauline Gill, Florence Gittins, Gertrude Green, Constance Harley, Maude Meeke, Jessie Nelson, Agnes Paton, Florence Pearson, Caroline Roberts, Ada Smith, Amelia Smith, Winifred Tice, Kathleen Vine, Theresa Woodward.

Staff Nurses: Margaret Aherne, Jessie Cameron, Flora Campbell, Margaret Cocking, Anne O'Neill, Elizabeth Webster, and Mary Wray.

TERRITORIAL FORCE NURSING SERVICE.

Matron: Grace Craig.

Assistant Matron: Jean Edgar.

Sisters: Mary Bolderstone, Jane Dunlop, Laura Gordon, Katherine Muirhead, Eleanor Wilkinson.

Staff Nurses: Gwenllian Lewis, Catherine MacFie, and Alicia Wishart.

CIVIL NURSING SERVICE.

Sister: Eliza Addison.

VOLUNTARY AID DETACHMENT.

Mrs. Headlam.

The picture on page 222, which by the kind permission of the Editor of *The Gentlewoman*, we are able to publish, is of Miss Kathleen Smith, Assistant Matron of the Second Southern Hospital, Bristol (T.F.), who was recently decorated by the King with the Royal Red Cross. Our readers will agree that it is a very charming portrait.

The Hon. Sir Charles Russell, the Chairman, is greatly to be congratulated on the success of the Sale of Antiques now being held at Christie's, for the benefit of the funds of the Joint War Committee. The quality of the gifts is far higher than last year, and the result of the Sale—which is to last for thirteen days—will, we feel sure, far exceed the £50,000 raised last year. Of pictures, drawings and prints, china, pottery and furniture, silver, jewellery, books and manuscripts, there is the most tempting display. Amongst the latter are two letters from Miss Florence Nightingale, presented respectively by Miss D. Bouton and Miss Julia Smith; and Miss Bessie Thompson presents a small travelling Writing Case, covered with leather, with one page inscription written in pencil by Florence Nightingale; also Note by her, enclosed, dated 1st September, 1896, "God bless our departing Home Sister, Miss Crossland, says every petal of these poor flowers, and every grape of the vine." Little did the writer think when she pencilled this little note, that ultimately it would be sold to benefit her dear soldiers, in a war far more barbarous than the Crimean War upwards of sixty years ago!

Mr. MacVeagh, on the 20th inst., asked the Under Secretary of State for War on what date the Committee on the Supply of Nurses presented its Report; whether he could state why it has not yet been presented to Parliament; and whether he could state whether it is intended to publish it in full?

Mr. Macpherson replied that the Report was being considered by the Army Council, and that until it had been considered he could not say whether it was to be published or not.

Mr. MacVeagh asked if, in view of the urgently important nature of the question (the shortage of nurses), there was any reason why the Report should be held up for two months without any explanation?

Mr. Macpherson replied that he quite realised the importance of the Report, but that they did not wish to do anything until the Army Council had thoroughly considered it.

Mr. MacVeagh said he was sorry to press his hon. friend, but the question of the adequate

supply of nurses for soldiers at the Front was one of great importance, and there was no good in postponing the matter until the War was over. The Report had been under consideration for over two months by the War Office, and what was the cause of the delay?

No reply was given.

NURSES AND INSURANCE.

At the Fifth Annual Conference of the Association of Approved Societies, which will be held on Saturday, March 31st, at 2.30 p.m., at the King's Weigh Hall, Thomas Street, London, W., the first Resolution on the Agenda concerns "War Sickness Risks," as follows:—

"That this Conference protests against any part of the liability for War Risks being placed on the funds of Approved Societies, and claims that Insured Persons, incapacitated whilst serving the Nation, should be compensated from National Funds. This liability was not anticipated or provided for when the financial basis of the National Insurance Scheme was calculated by the Actuaries, and any money taken from the contributions of the Insured Section of the Community to meet this liability is not only unreasonable and unfair, but endangers the stability of National Insurance Funds."

It will be remembered that when insured nurses enter the service of the War Office they are exempted from paying their contributions, the War Office paying 3d. a week for them at the termination of service. How unfair this is to paying members when nurses are invalided out of the Service without compensation is apparent when we cite the following case. A nurse was recently invalided out, when the War Office paid 15s. in arrears for her for fifteen months' service. The nurse's valid claim was for £4 10s., for which she had paid nothing during the fifteen months when in health, and receiving good pay and

allowances. The War Office should compensate and provide care for nurses who break down in its service, and not compel the fellow members of her Insurance Society to pay £3 15s. towards which she has not subscribed.

We hope the Resolution will be passed unanimously, and this very unjust tax on Approved Insurance Societies' Funds be discontinued at once.

REGISTRATION THE REMEDY.

At Lincoln last week Gladys Lilian Irene Clarke, who described herself as a Matron at a base hospital in France, was brought up on remand, charged with issuing a worthless cheque and obtaining money by fraud.

The chief constable stated that the cheque was one of several alleged to have been stolen by the prisoner from an army officer at Godalming. She was alleged to have committed similar offences at Godalming, and was wanted by the police at Guildford. He had been unable to verify that she was an Army Nurse, but did not believe it, as he knew where she was in May last and for six months afterwards. The photograph of the prisoner in nurse's uniform was taken in a uniform borrowed from a hospital nurse in Brighton for the purpose.

The magistrates ordered her to be handed over to the Godalming police.



MISS KATHLEEN SMITH, R.R.C.,
Assistant Matron, Second Southern Hospital, Bristol.

The declared intention of the German Government to wage war on hospital ships has been ruthlessly carried out in the case of the *Asturias*, which was torpedoed without warning on the night of March 20-21. Happily, some 900 patients had been landed, but, besides the ship's crew, members of the R.A.M.C., and a number of Sisters and Staff Nurses—who were looking forward to leave on reaching port, after service abroad—were on board. One Staff Nurse is reported missing, and 24 men of the R.A.M.C. have been drowned. We shall not forget them on the day of reckoning.

JOINT WAR COMMITTEE.

HOME HOSPITALS.

The following Sisters have been deputed to duty in Home Hospitals :—

Red Cross Hosp., Christchurch.—Miss M. E. Stoneham.

V.A. Hosp., Exmouth.—Miss M. G. Alford.

Aux. Hosp., Branksome Park, Bournemouth.—Miss C. A. Fiske.

Woodside Red Cross Hosp., Darlington.—Miss E. T. Reid.

Hosp. for Officers, 83, Portland Place, W.—Miss J. Holmes.

North Staffs. Inf., Hartshill.—Miss E. Allan.

Aux. Mil. Hosp., Headcorn.—Mrs. N. M. O'Brien.

V.A. Hosp., Torrington.—Miss W. Kennett, Miss J. Morison.

Red X Hosp., Studley Court, Stourbridge.—Mrs. M. Kay.

The Close, Winchester.—Miss F. M. Stephens.

Highbury V.A. Hosp., Moseley.—Miss F. B. Gray.

Red X Hosp., Minehead.—Miss A. B. Dodd.

Red X Hosp., Bilton Hall, Rugby.—Miss E. L. McNeill.

V.A. Hosp., Spondon, near Derby.—Miss A. Fawke.

Maxillo Hosp., Prince's Road, Kennington.—Mrs. B. Gillingham.

St. John Hosp., Sevenoaks.—Miss M. M. Doyle.

Newnham Paddox Hosp., Lutterworth.—Miss C. Wilson.

Bowood Hosp., Calne, Wilts.—Mrs. E. Hofford.

Miss K. E. Mathieson, Miss J. H. R. Ryan.

Red X Hosp., Chippenham.—Miss M. R. O'Connell.

Moorfield Hosp., Glossop.—Miss E. Brenan.

Officers Hosp., 26, Park Lane, W.—Miss C. D. Hirst.

Uffculme Hosp., Birmingham.—Miss H. M. Bastin.

Summerlea, Fortis Green, East Finchley.—Miss M. Donaldson.

Borthroyde Aux. Military Hosp., Brighouse.—Miss W. Barns.

Shorne Hill Hosp., Totton, Hants.—Mrs. M. Prall.

Aux. Mil. Hosp., Moor Park, Preston.—Miss H. Tebbit.

Govt. Colony Hostel, Coventry.—Miss M. Blackmore.

ABROAD.

The following Sisters have been deputed to duty abroad :—

The Brigade Hosp., Etaples.—Miss Amy G. Simpson.

Hopital de l'Océan, La Panne.—Staff Nurses, Miss L. Bloomfield, Miss K. E. Mosley, Miss M. S. Mackay.

Miss S. A. Swift, R.R.C., Matron-in-Chief, is at present on a tour of inspection of hospitals in Cheshire. She expects to be away till the end of the week.

CARE OF THE WOUNDED.

A wing of the Oaklands Red Cross Hospital at Clevedon, Somerset, was destroyed by fire last Saturday. Seventy wounded, including many helpless cases, had an exciting experience, but all were removed safely to another hospital.

Lord Rhondda would like it to be known widely that books and magazines suitable for soldiers' reading need not be included in the waste paper bundles for collection by local authorities. As Sir Douglas Haig has stated in a letter to Sir Edward Ward, chairman of the Camps Library, the troops greatly need and appreciate reading matter, and Lord Rhondda therefore appeals to the generosity of the public to continue to give all suitable books and magazines across the counter of any post office, unwrapped and unaddressed. Through the medium of the Camps Library the books and magazines will be promptly dispatched to all units in all the theatres of war.

The International Red Cross Society announces with regret that the German Government has put into force its threats of reprisals, and that a large number of prisoners have been removed from the German concentration camps and sent to the zone of the armies.

The society is using its influence to induce the Germans to cancel this measure.

What would be really efficacious would be "a tooth for a tooth" and the sequestration of every farthing of German money invested in this country. Let it be earmarked for the rehabilitation of the country which "the locusts have eaten."

A very interesting, illustrated booklet *Le Faux Miroir* has been produced by the combined efforts of the Staff—French and English of the Urgency Cases Hospital. It is known to our readers that soon after the outbreak of war Miss E. L. C. Eden offered to raise for the French Government "an English mobile surgical ambulance, complete in all its details, with personnel, equipment and automobiles." The offer was accepted and a committee formed with Sir Arbuthnot Lane as President of the hospital, and Mr. Stephen Paget, Chairman of Committee. The hospital was located at Bar-le-Duc, where the unit arrived on March 13th, 1915. After six months' work there the unit took over the Chateau of Faux Miroir, Revigny, where they received wounded from Verdun. *Le Faux Miroir*, as the introduction tells us, is a medley of songs, drawings and stories produced during a short lull of work after the Verdun fighting.

In a memorandum on the prevention of venereal diseases the British Medical Association recommend that medical men should be consulted by local authorities when schemes are being framed, instead of being placed on an advisory committee afterwards.

THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS.

The opening of the American Women's Hospital for Officers at 98 and 99, Lancaster Gate (of which Lady Randolph Churchill is Chairman), on March 21st, drew a large and distinguished gathering for its formal inauguration. One of these two fine mansions has been generously lent for the period of the war, and the other one is rented. The lofty rooms are well adapted for their purpose; the walls throughout are discoloured in soft grey colour. The largest ward contains twelve beds and opens out on to a balcony overlooking the park. The bedsteads,

There is a finely equipped theatre, and the recreation room running the length of the house, corresponding to the long ward in the adjoining house, also had its balcony overlooking the park, and contained a fine billiard table and many inviting chairs covered with gay chintzes.

The first convoy of patients were expected on March 26th, and accommodation is provided for forty-two officers. There was no opening ceremony, but the crowded staircases and rooms proved the eager interest taken in this new proof of the generosity of American women towards our wounded.

Tea was served in the dining-rooms, and the V.A.D.s proved efficient and smiling attendants. The Matron, Miss M. Illingworth, holds the certifi-



THE MATRON.

THE AMERICAN WOMEN'S HOSPITAL FOR OFFICERS.
GROUP OF TRAINED STAFF ON OPENING DAY.

which are enamelled white, are covered with white piqué quilts and blue silk eiderdowns, and the most inviting pillows possible were awaiting the occupants. The floors were covered with linoleum of soft blue colour, and pretty mats were beside each bed. Lining the staircase were bevies of V.A.D.s, both English and American, the latter being distinguishable by the absence of the Red Cross. Five fully-trained Sisters and eight trained Staff Nurses are responsible under the Matron for the actual nursing, which we were gratified to learn is to be entirely in skilled hands, the voluntary staff being kept strictly to service duties.

cate of Guy's Hospital, and that of the I.S.T.M. She has also served in the French Military Hospital at Dinard.

The Matron (Miss Illingworth) was uniformed entirely in white, and the Sisters wore blue linen. Every grade had adopted the turned down soft collar, slightly open at the neck, worn by American nurses, which is no doubt far more comfortable for nursing purposes than the severe linen collar which has for so long been a distinctive feature in our nursing uniforms.

We wish all success to this new enterprise, and are sure our wounded officers will keenly appreciate so much kindly thought and generous outlay.

NATIONAL UNION OF TRAINED NURSES.

On Friday evening, March 16th, by kind invitation of Miss Marquardt, a meeting of nurses was held at the Camberwell Infirmary. Miss Helen Pearse spoke on the present policy of the N.U.T.N. and an interesting discussion followed.

A meeting of the Norwich Branch of the N.U.T.N. was by the kindness of Miss Edington, held at the Maternity Institute on March 17th. Miss Rimmer gave a short address on the aims and policy of the N.U.T.N. and answered questions. After tea the business meeting for election of hon. officers was held.

The next day, by kind permission of Miss Hamer, a short meeting was held at the Thorpe War Hospital, and after the address questions were asked and discussion was general.

By the kind courtesy of the Commanding Officer and Matron, a meeting of the N.U.T.N. members and intending members was held at the Horton War Hospital, Epsom. Miss Rimmer, of the N.U.T.N., gave a very interesting address outlining the aims and policy of the Union. A strong point was made to the effect that independent opinion of nurses on matters connected with the government of their profession could only be expressed by means of organised societies directly representing nurses' opinion. Several most interesting questions in regard to State Registration were asked. The feeling was practically unanimous that in order to obtain the best service to the public and ensure just conditions for the nurses, *direct* representation on any governing Council was of vital importance. The meeting took place on the 24th inst.

THE IMPERIAL NURSES' CLUB.

There was a friendly and invigorating atmosphere surrounding the "At Home" given last week at the Imperial Nurses' Club, 137, Ebury Street, S.W. 1, which augurs well for the future. The artistes who very kindly and most beautifully played and sang were conscious of the appreciative audience they had in the Nurses around them; the listeners drank in the sweet and stirring sounds and were refreshed. There seemed to be an intuitive understanding between these varied succourers of the world—widely different though their mode of service may be.

It occurred to the writer that further inspiration and hope were gathered from the lovely flowers and harmonising colours in which those present found themselves.

The committee and members of the Club are to be congratulated on this celebration of their six months' work. We hope it is the first of many such gatherings, though we venture to wonder whether the limited premises of the Club will prove adequate if the membership increases at its present rate; it is clear that it supplies a long-felt want and must grow accordingly.

APPOINTMENTS.

MATRON.

Red Cross Hospital, Perth.—Miss A. M. Macdonnell, R.R.C., has been appointed Matron. She has had a distinguished nursing career, and has been Lady Superintendent of the Richmond Hospital, Dublin, and Matron of the Irish Hospital in South Africa during the War, and received the Royal Red Cross for her services in this connection. She has also been Matron of the Dublin Castle Red Cross Hospital in the present war. Her appointment as a member of the Board of Superintendence of Dublin Hospitals indicates the esteem in which she is held in that city.

ASSISTANT MATRON.

Princess Patricia's Military Hospital, Bray, County Wicklow.—Miss Cissie MacMahon has been appointed Assistant Matron. She was trained at Mercer's Hospital, Dublin.

HOLIDAY SISTER.

Royal Hospital for Incurables, Putney Heath, S.W.—Miss M. Paul has been appointed Holiday Sister. She was trained at St. Thomas' Hospital, S.E., and has been Ward Sister at the Chelsea Infirmary, S.W.; Night Sister at the Royal Hospital, Chelsea, S.W.; Temporary Sister at the Victoria Park Hospital, N.E., and also at St. James' Infirmary, Balham.

MATERNITY NURSE.

Coleraine Board of Guardians.—Miss Margaret Marlow has been appointed Maternity Nurse for the Dispensary District of Kilrea.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S JUBILEE INSTITUTE FOR NURSES.

Examination for the Roll of Queen's Nurses,
March 15th, 1917.

1. You are sent for in an emergency to a case of post-partum hæmorrhage—the doctor has not yet arrived. What would you do?
2. If it were considered necessary to sterilize milk supplied from a dairy, how would you do it? What diseases may be conveyed by milk?
3. In connection with what kinds of disease or accident have you had experience of "shock"? What is the nursing treatment of such a case?
4. What precautions should be taken against the spread of diphtheria during an epidemic of that disease?
5. You are sent for by a doctor living at some distance, to go and attend to a case of Ophthalmia Neonatorum. State what you would do.
6. (a) How would you make a patient understand why bread, meat, and sugar must be saved, and how help her to divide and plan the amount allowed so that the children and husband shall be adequately nourished? Or (b) What do you understand by "Preventive Work" in district nursing?

THE NEW PRESIDENT OF THE IRISH NURSES' ASSOCIATION.

Miss Margaret O'Flynn, who has been elected President of the Irish Nurses' Association, whose portrait we have pleasure in publishing in this issue, was trained for three years at the Drumcondra Hospital, Dublin, and obtained the first silver medal given in the Dublin Technical School for Nurses. She held the post of Sister at Mercer's Hospital, Dublin, for two and a half years, in gynaecological and female surgical wards, and then went to the Royal Hospital, Bristol, where she remained for seven years as Surgical Sister, Night Superintendent, and temporary Assistant Matron respectively. She left Bristol eight years ago to take up her present appointment as Lady Superintendent of the Children's Hospital, Temple Street, Dublin.

Miss O'Flynn has always been a strong advocate of State Registration for Nurses, and has worked as a member of the Irish Nurses' Association to help forward this movement. She is very keen on Nursing Education, and looks forward to the time when the Hospital of which she is Lady Superintendent (where the training and discipline are excellent) may be able, through affiliations, to give the certificate of a fully-trained nurse to its pupils. At the present time the appointment of a public-spirited patriotic President such as Miss O'Flynn is known to be, is of great importance to the Irish Nursing World, and we congratulate the Irish Nurses' Association on the appointment, and wish the new President a happy and successful year of office.

NURSES' MISSIONARY LEAGUE.

The All-day Working Party at Guy's Hospital, in connection with the Nurses' Missionary League (which has now become an annual affair through the kindness of the Matron, Sisters and Staff), was held on Tuesday, March 20th.

Sister Luke and many other friends had collected [money, bought material, cut out garments, &c., and when we arrived [at 9 a.m. we found the "workroom" arranged: sewing machines, bandage rollers, and everything in preparation for the many workers. These came in throughout the day, as "off-duty" time allowed (some only having a quarter of an hour to spare spent the time in rolling bandages), and much

interest in the effort was shown by one and all alike—Matron, chaplains, nurses with half-days, all wishing to take their share.

The happy recipient of this bit of work will be a former Guy's Nurse, Miss E. A. Barron, who is working under the C.E.Z.M.S. at Tah Ding Hospital, Foochow, and the contents of the box will include bandages (28 many tail, 8 T, 12 double cataract, 164 roller), 30 doctor's towels and 8 baby's frocks.

During the day short missionary talks were given by Miss E. F. Horne (U.M.C.A.), Central Africa; Miss F. E. Campbell (Guy's W.M.S.), South India, and Dr. Catherine Ironside (C.M.S.), Persia.

H. Y. R.

THE QUIET DAY.

The "Quiet Day," held in connection with the Nurses' Missionary League at Holy Trinity Church, St. Marylebone, on March 27th, provided an opportunity for prayer and silent meditation,

which was greatly appreciated by the good number of nurses who were able to be present at one time or another during the day. The services were conducted by the Rev. G. H. Harris, S.C.F. (chaplain, King George Hospital). In the morning he spoke of "Discipleship" and "Eternal Truth," dwelling specially upon the call to self-sacrifice in the life of each disciple, and upon the Cross of Christ as the eternal truth which alone abides to-day amid the ruins of civilisation. In the afternoon, he gave three addresses—on "Worship," which he defined as "self-forgetfulness in the presence of God realised



MISS MARGARET O'FLYNN,
President Irish Nurses' Association.

in His purity, holiness and love; on "Work"; and on "Vision." Work for Christ is an essential in the Christian's life; it is the very highest duty to pass on what we have of Christ. It is not the work only of ministers and missionaries, though many more of them are needed. The life which compels people to think about Jesus Christ in the home, the hospital, the workshop, is the greatest factor in the spread of the Gospel. For such work the nurse has constantly around her opportunities which come to very few. It is impossible to gauge the depth of her influence, but such influence can only be its highest on a foundation of prayer and a deep inner life. For the future we can look forward with hope.

At the evening service the address on "The Ideal Servant" was given by the Rector, Rev. E. N. Sharpe, but we regret being unable to report it as we are just going to press.

NURSING ECHOES.

We gather from the lay nursing press that an attempt is being made through its meddlesome interference to arouse hospital Secretaries to busy themselves about our Nurses' Leagues, but no doubt these gentlemen have far too much sense to be used for any such purpose. Hospital Secretaries have themselves a most useful Association through which they co-operate for professional purposes, and through which they can meet, become personally acquainted, and discuss their own, and hospital affairs generally, and exchange much useful information. They have nothing to do with the Leagues of certificated nurses or medical associations, and our experience has always been, when attending League meetings in hospitals, that the Committees, Secretaries, and other male officers of the institutions have given every facility for the meetings to take place, and treated the nurses with the utmost courtesy. The Leagues are not going to be dictated to by Sir Henry Burdett, or permit him to make mischief in their affiliated organization, the National Council of Trained Nurses. For the circulation of his very profitable nurses' publications he has the run of the Royal National Pension Fund and the College of Nursing, Ltd. The Leagues are Societies of Certificated Nurses of an entirely professional character, and intend to remain so.

The *League Journal* of the City of Westminster Infirmary Nurses' League is a most admirable issue, and contains the portraits of the two first members to receive the honour of the R.R.C.—Sister M. Huffer and Sister Elizabeth Charles.

Extracts from the "Letter Bag" are always exceedingly interesting. A Sister who has taken up nursing in a munition factory sends a few particulars of her important national work. She writes:—"I am in charge

of what is called a rest room, which is really an out-patient department for munition girls, provided for treatment of minor injuries and cases of trivial illnesses, or temporary indisposition. There are various rashes caused by the different poisons, others suffer from headache and vomiting, but many, after a few hours' rest, are able to return to their work, if they show no sign of improvement, are sent on to Hospital. I also get quite a number in with brass splinters in their fingers, which, if not attended to at once, are liable to lead to blood-poisoning. They must come and have the smallest cut or scratch attended to immediately, because of the danger of the poison they are constantly handling. There is a day

and night Sister, and each week we take alternate day and night duty. On entering the building, we first have to go into what is called the shifting room, here we exchange our boots for magazine shoes, after which we are not allowed to touch the ground, but have to walk on raised wooden platforms, which extend for miles. The girls must not wear any article of clothing which has metal buttons upon it, not even a linen covered one, hairpins have to be removed, and purses to be given up, and instead, they are provided with leather bags for their money, while at work, which are hung round their necks. There are excellent canteens, where good hot dinners are provided for

both day and night shifts, at a very small cost. There is also a quick meal canteen, where the girls can make tea for themselves, and bring in anything to be made hot. Each canteen has a piano, and after meals the girls sing and dance, and they always seem very happy. There is a nice restaurant provided for officers, where there is a variety of well-cooked food, or the Sisters can have anything brought to the rest room by the canteen attendant. This side of nursing I find quite interesting."

We are glad to note from the Treasurer's Report that a tidy sum has been spent on



SISTER M. HUFFER, R.R.C.
Member City of Westminster Infirmary
Nurses' League.

parcels for prisoners in Germany. We can trust the very kind-hearted President, Miss Elma Smith, to remember their sore needs.

We are glad to note that in the 137th annual report of the General Hospital, Birmingham, the Board expresses its thanks to the Nursing Staff as a whole for their devoted services to the Hospital during the strenuous year, and in particular to those Sisters who have, at personal sacrifice, remained at their posts since the outbreak of war.

By the generosity of private donors a fund has been created for the award of a Gold Medal to the Nurse who does best in the Annual Examinations.

It is also reported that the scheme under which certain out-patients receive the help of Nurses at or near their homes is still being continued successfully by arrangement with the District Nursing Society. This scheme materially assists in relieving the work of the Out-patient Department.

Saskatchewan is reported busy with its Registration Bill, with hopes of passing it this session. Good luck to it.

SOCIETY FOR STATE REGISTRATION OF TRAINED NURSES.

Friday, the 23rd March, was the last day on which Petitions for or against the granting of a Supplemental Charter to the Royal British Nurses' Association could be delivered at the Privy Council Office. We learn that several of the organized nurses' societies, amongst them the Society for the State Registration of Trained Nurses, presented Petitions—*not* against the Amalgamation of the R.B.N.A. and the College of Nursing, Ltd., but against the deprivation of trained nurses of their Professional Association as granted to them in the original Charter, as the Supplemental Charter makes the laity eligible for membership without financial responsibility, thus entirely altering the professional standing of the organization. Moreover the proposed Bye-Laws deprive the nurse members of safeguards to personal liberty and certain privileges, and would establish an educational and disciplinary monopoly over the nurses of the United Kingdom, the resistance to which, should it be effected, would arouse an economic war of a very determined character.

The present Charter provides for amalgamation if this is really the aim of the R.B.N.A. and College of Nursing, Ltd.

WHERE DO WE COME IN?

We are now constantly having heartening news flashed from Canada. The part the great Dominion has played in this War is a stupendously patriotic one, and its women are not being neglected. From Toronto came the news on the 25th inst. that the Nova Scotia Legislature had unanimously passed the second reading of the Bill to enfranchise women and to allow them to practise law.

Under a new and enlightened Government women are to vote for the Constituent Assembly in Russia. With such radical changes women's suffrage comes as a matter of course!

How about "this land of the free"? As we go to press the long expected debate on Electoral Reform is taking place in the House of Commons. Mr. Asquith will introduce the subject, calling for the prompt introduction of legislation on the lines of the resolutions reported from the Conference, amongst which was one providing for a form of women's suffrage. It is reported that Mr. Salter, with the sympathy of a considerable body of Unionist opinion, will move an amendment confining the demand to an immediate register, and the provision of means of voting for those electors who are absent on naval and military service, thus obstructing once again any measure of justice for women! Not even this revolutionary War—for every day it is sweeping away a multitude of bogies—can enlighten those politicians who are devoid of antennæ. We shall get the vote in spite of them.

Of course women cannot "down tools" during the War, but that would settle the question in a few hours' time.

INTO BATTLE.

The naked earth is warm with Spring,
And with green grass and bursting trees
Leans to the sun's gaze glorying,
And quivers in the sunny breeze;
And Life is Colour and Warmth and Light,
And a striving evermore for these;
And he is dead who will not fight;
And who dies fighting has increase.
The fighting man shall from the sun
Take warmth, and life from the glowing earth;
Speed with the light-foot winds to run,
And with the trees to newer birth;
And find, when fighting shall be done,
Great rest and fulness after dearth.

* * * * *

The thundering line of battle stands,
And in the air Death moans and sings;
But Day shall clasp him with strong hands,
And Night shall fold him in soft wings.

—Julian Grenfell.

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BOOK OF THE WEEK.

HOSPITAL DAYS.*

These sketches give experiences from a wounded subaltern's point of view. They are interesting because nurses are, or should be, interested in hearing patients' ideas about their nurses and their modes of nursing. For this reason we will confine ourselves to extracts bearing directly on these subjects.

The writer found himself after various vicissitudes in one of the Home Hospitals.

Sunbeam was my nurse—not that this was really her name, or the name by which any of us at first called her. She inherited her soubriquet in course of time. I tried calling her Flossie the second morning I was her patient, but the Matron who was passing at the time, overheard me and explained that was not the way for a patient to speak to his nurse, and that there were rules of decorum to be observed in the Ward. Thereafter for the next week I addressed her formally as Nurse X. The next day a new patient was brought in, a skip of a boy with a shattered knee, which gave him little rest from pain. He had just come from another hospital and was querulous at being moved and suspicious of the new hands into which he had fallen. He began by assuming that Nurse X knew nothing about dressing wounds, and gave her detailed instructions about how to take off the old bandages. As she had had five years' training at a London Hospital, these instructions were hardly necessary. However, she listened attentively to all he said and followed his directions. Next he found fault with the fresh dressing she had put on and said it was not what he had been having or what his doctor had ordered. On this point Nurse was gently firm and said she must be allowed to know. Finally, when the dressing was done, he complained that the bandage was too tight on, when she took off the whole thing and rewound the bandage. Dressed and tucked up, patient and nurse surveyed each other. Was there anything more she could do for him? He shook his head wearily. "Perhaps if I got the pillow under your knee higher up it would be easier."

He agreed that it might help, so all the bed-clothes and the cradle over his legs came off, once more the pillow under the injured limb was adjusted and he was tucked up again.

Quite an ordinary picture of what a nurse should be, and it is pleasant to think that the unmatched patience of a true nurse has been recorded.

The narrator says, "What endless skill, patience and a real love of her work go to the making of a hospital nurse. And Sunbeam is, I suppose, still there in the 'old ward' (which is really a beautiful, big, airy room with lovely flowers and blue silk quilts, but still a ward nevertheless), moving among the chemicals and the bandages—a

ray of light in herself and the truest of real war workers."

The chapter on the convalescent home contains the following amusing incident. "Flanigan always made as thorough a toilet as he was able from his bed. On the morning in question he had taken off the top part of his pyjamas and was leaning well out of bed over the basin soaping the back of his neck. At this moment in came one of the lady probationers. Seeing Flanigan in his state of undress she gave an exclamation and made to go back through the door. Flanigan, looking up, caught sight of her, and being used to the matter-of-fact ways of trained nurses, beckoned her to his bedside. Hesitating and much embarrassed, the young lady probationer sidled toward Flanigan. He, unable to speak for fear of filling his mouth with soap, made a gesture to her that he wished her to sponge his back. Misunderstanding his movement and feeling that she must be brave and behave like a hospital nurse at all costs, she went and fetched a screen and put it round his bed. She then slipped from the ward."

One of many war books, this has a place of its own. H. H.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR.

Whilst cordially inviting communications upon all subjects for these columns, we wish it to be distinctly understood that we do not IN ANY WAY hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.

BY DIVINE RIGHT.

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—I have read with interest the letter signed "J. B. N. Paterson," in this week's JOURNAL, and quite agree with the writer as to the need for union amongst nurses. I think it is a great mistake that so many Matrons should have put themselves in such an invidious position in regard to nurses as to claim, as such, to control them through the Register for which the College of Nursing is seeking recognition from the Privy College. Nurses as a rule are very loyal to the Matrons of the Schools where they were trained, and would willingly follow their lead, but when they claim that they are to direct and control the destinies of all members of the nursing profession who do not happen to hold superior posts in institutions, for the rest of their professional lives, one is really tempted to ask: "Who made thee a judge and a ruler" over me?

As heads of training schools the jurisdiction of Matrons—exclusive of that over Sisters and Staff Nurses, who are in a small proportion to the whole staff—is mainly over pupils in training. In my view those Matrons are in the strongest position who grasp this fact. To claim to control the certificated nurses throughout the country, professionally and economically, is a most preposterous demand, and an assumption of autocracy in which, if they persist, they are riding for a

* By a Platoon Commander. T. Fisher Unwin. Price 2s. 6d. net.

fall. Autocracy is out of date as the events of the last few weeks have proved. What qualifications have hospital Matrons, even from the point of view of professional knowledge to control our destinies? What do they, as a class, know of preventive nursing, school nursing, district nursing, fever nursing, and many other branches of which a General Nursing Council will have to take expert cognizance? They have specialized in one Branch, and administer it well as a rule, and their pupils who have passed out into the world recognise this and are grateful. But now, in the organisation of our profession, we have come to the Valley of Decision. As the representatives of the employers Matrons are a small and isolated class. We shall never tolerate their claim to jurisdiction over the profession as a whole by divine right.

They may be leaders—real leaders—but only by its free choice of them. They must gain and hold its confidence, and there could be no finer position for any Matron than to take her seat on the Governing Body of her profession because its members have recognized in her the qualities they desire in a leader, and have placed her there of their free will, because they believe that she will be true to the confidence they repose in her, will protect their educational standards, and hold high the banner of professional honour.

As one of many who learn from the high standard you set before your pupils, both by example and precept, to honour the office of Matron, I have been proud, as a graduate nurse, to follow your lead, knowing well your single-minded devotion to the welfare of our profession

I am, gratefully yours,

MARGARET BREAY,

London, W.

“NOT.”]

To the Editor of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING.

DEAR MADAM,—Whoever sent you the report of our Annual Meeting on the 17th inst. failed to convey the enthusiastic feeling by which all we Irish nurse members of the I.N.A. were inspired, how unanimously we all are, officers and rank and file together, for a real independent Irish Board to conduct our educational affairs in Ireland, and how determined we all are not to be controlled from London by any Council of London Hospital Matrons and others. We consider the lack of tact with which our convictions and feelings have been handled by people who know nothing of our national aspirations, and care less, has been lamentable, and only foreshadows the inconsiderate and domineering manner in which we are to be treated for the future, as we can be outvoted by seven to one. The College of Nursing may have been started “whether the nurses want it or not”; then let me say for Irish nurses it is “not.” We mean to preserve our own national individuality in any organisation we support. The clique of Englishwomen at the head of some of our Irish

hospitals have always been antagonistic to the principles for which our Association stands. They receive their orders to vote “anti” or “for” registration from St. Thomas’ Hospital, London, and as soon as Irish nurses throughout the country realise this they will fight shy of the “Irish Board” nominated from England. We believe in the women, Irish and English, who have for years been one with us in our long fight for State Registration, many of whom have paid most generously as delegates, of the I.N.A. They have stuck to their principles and ours. If you can find space for this long letter please publish it, as every attempt is being made by the “College” party to break up our Irish Nurses’ Association, by which we mean to stand.

Yours faithfully,

MEMB. I.N.A.

The Editor regrets that a number of letters are held over for want of space. They will appear next week.

OUR PRIZE COMPETITIONS.

QUESTIONS.

April 7th.—How would you render first aid to a patient suffering from burns in a workman’s cottage, where few remedies were available, and what steps would you take to secure the efficient nursing of the patient?

April 14th.—What precautions would you take in nursing patients in a ward devoted to the reception of persons suffering from venereal diseases? How may infection spread (1) from one patient to another, (2) to the nurse-in-charge?

April 21st.—How are wounds infected? How may infection be avoided or minimized?

April 28th.—How would you prepare a patient for the operation of removal of an eye? Describe the subsequent nursing care.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Up until April 5th annual subscribers can secure “The British Journal of Nursing” weekly by sending (s. 6d. by that date to the Manager, B.J.N. Office, 431, Oxford Street, London, W. 1.

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The method known as “on sale or return” is about to be prohibited. This is due to the restrictions on the import of paper, a limitation in its turn imposed by the necessity to set free more shipping tonnage for the import of food. It is necessary, therefore, that all readers of “The British Journal of Nursing” should without delay place orders with their newsagents for the regular supply of the paper, otherwise they will not be able to obtain a copy. Newsagents will provide only for an assured sale.

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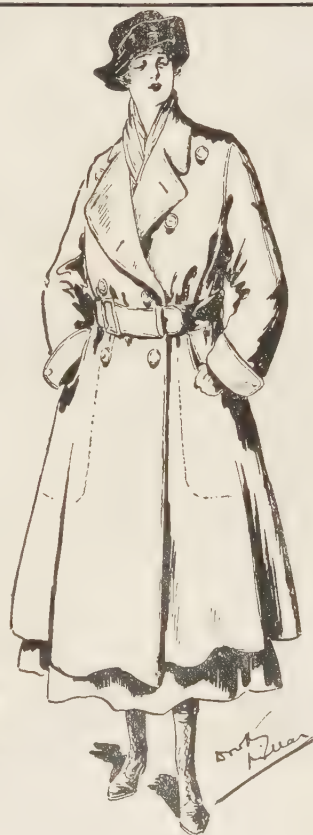
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I am charmed with my "Studington," it fits perfectly and is so comfortable; I shall recommend it to all my friends. (Mrs.) H. S.

The Hon. Mrs. Graham Murray is highly pleased with the beautiful "Studington" Coat, which was supplied to her last week, and which she finds most useful and very warm, yet light.

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The Midwife.

THE ASSOCIATION FOR PROMOTING THE TRAINING AND SUPPLY OF MIDWIVES.

The annual meeting of the above Association was held, by kind permission of Mrs. Luff, at 9, Queen Anne Street, Cavendish Square, W., on March 22nd, when Major A. P. Luff, R.A.M.C. (T.), who occupied the chair, said that the objects of the Association must appeal to every medical practitioner; to supply a class of women who would introduce the infant into the world efficiently, and prevent the wastage of infant life—this was important not only to the infant, but to the mother. If the infant's life were sacrificed at birth, the drain on her physical energy and the pain of her travail had been all for nothing. The aid of competent midwives was, therefore, of the greatest value, especially now when we were in the midst of a devastating and cruel war, depriving the nation not only of the manhood of the present, but of the sires of strong and robust children in the future.

It had been said that there was nothing so misleading as figures except facts, but those detailed in the 44th report of the Local Government Board proved that the supply of midwives in rural areas was insufficient, and that remoteness from midwifery assistance in childbirth meant an increased mortality.

He understood that the National Insurance Act had the machinery for the care of women before, at, and after the birth of their children. He was painfully aware of the wastage of public money in the support of panel practice, which consisted largely of the treatment of symptoms, not of underlying causes. He would therefore be glad to think that useful work could be done for mothers.

The Hon. Officers, and Executive and other committees having been re-elected, Mrs. Ebdon moved the adoption of the Annual Report, which stated that the time of the Committee had been fully occupied with the many important movements in connection with Maternity and Child Welfare. Early in the year the County and County Borough Medical Officers were circularised on the question of health visiting during the attendance of the midwife. The hope is expressed that the rule in certain counties that the health visitor should not visit until the midwife's charge of the case expires should be adopted by all, otherwise there is great danger that the well-trained capable midwife will become extinct. She cannot be expected to submit to any interference in the discharge of her duties from anyone but her inspector, to whom she is answerable.

The report notes with satisfaction that grants

are to be paid by the Local Government Board in respect of "the provision of a midwife for necessitous women in confinement, and in areas which are insufficiently supplied with this service," and "the provision of a doctor for the aid in confinement of necessitous women." Also that the Board of Education is now considering schemes whereby grants may be obtainable from the State for the Training of Midwives.

Mrs. Ebdon pleaded earnestly for increased support of the work of the Association, including its training home at East Ham.

Mr. A. L. Leon, J.P., L.C.C., Hon. Treasurer, who moved the adoption of the Balance Sheet, said there had been a satisfactory increase of £200 in donations. That was because at the end of the year they had made a great effort, and had received donations from a number of the City Companies, and the *Daily Telegraph* had also published several articles referring to the work. The Committee was much obliged to both.

Dr. George Reid, Medical Officer of Health for Staffordshire, then gave an interesting address on "Midwifery and Government Subsidies." He explained that, owing to the passing of the old type of midwives, 52 trained women would be required in the next two years in Staffordshire; in the same ratio 1,902 would be required for England and Wales. The Staffordshire County Council proposed to employ midwives through local nursing organisations, either for whole time or part time, to subsidise midwives where necessary, and to organise an itinerant staff so as to bring skilled aid within reach of all women in childbirth.

A vote of thanks to Major and Mrs. Luff and to Dr. Reid for his address, proposed by the Bishop of Barking, brought the meeting to a close, and on the kind invitation of Mrs. Luff those present adjourned to another room for tea and coffee.

A MATERNITY & CHILD WELFARE CENTRE.

A maternity and child welfare centre has been opened at the Latchmere Baths, Burns Road, Battersea, at which there is a doctor in attendance for infant consultations, and it is intended to extend the work later to all pre-school children. Expectant mothers can have the advice of a specialist at the centre. The Council has also arranged to pay the fees of doctors summoned by midwives to poor women.

Battersea is a progressive borough in relation to the care of infants, and it established the first weighing room for babies.

The next examination of the Central Midwives Board will be held in London, Birmingham, Bristol, Manchester, and Newcastle-on-Tyne on May 1st. The oral examination follows in a few days' time.

CENTRAL MIDWIVES BOARD.

PENAL CASES.

A Special Meeting of the Central Midwives Board was held at Queen's Gate Buildings, Westminster, on Wednesday, March 14th, to consider charges alleged against twelve midwives, with the following results:—

Struck off the Roll and Certificate Cancelled.—Mary Cooper (No. 1549), Mary Elizabeth Daniells (No. 14369), Mary Fulcher (No. 42426), Elizabeth Hughes (No. 14968), Ellen McDonald (No. 16501), Emma Mitchell (No. 13758), Mary Pitt (No. 1717), Mary Thacker (No. 4000), Emma Wootton (No. 2327).

Cautioned. Report in three and six months.—Kate Rutter (1983), Mary Ellen Wilkinson (38060).

Adjourned, for sentence at the end of six months, with an interim report at three months.—Jane Butler (No. 2133).

Of the twelve women, seven were charged with negligence in failing to obtain medical assistance for infants with discharge from and inflammation of the eyes. Three of these infants subsequently died, and one, who had lost the sight in one eye, was brought by the mother to the enquiry. The midwife, Fulcher, in this case, who held the certificate of the Central Midwives Board, absolutely denied the allegations of the mother as to the delay in obtaining assistance. In answer to questions from the Board, she said she did not intend to practise again, as it wasn't worth it. The Board decided that in that case her name had better be removed from the Roll. The Inspector gave a very good report of her work, and she was informed that she could, if she wished, apply for reinstatement.

Two sad cases of maternal deaths were reported. In one case, an unmarried girl, the perinæum was torn up to the sphincter. The injury was not discovered by the midwife, as she admitted she had never washed the patient, but had left this duty to the mother. Medical evidence went to prove that her chance of recovery would have been "greatly improved," if she had been properly treated.

The second case, a married woman, was, when medical aid was summoned, "in a hopeless condition; serious symptoms must have been present for at least sixty hours."

The midwife admitted she did not take pulse and temperature.

Midwife Pitt was charged with using obscene language and had been fined ten shillings for the offence at the Petty Sessions.

The Chairman observed that it was a heavy fine; he believed one was allowed to say a good deal for five shillings.

A letter from the midwife's daughter explained that her mother used only "ordinary language."

Midwife Daniells, now undergoing twelve months imprisonment for unlawfully killing Florence Mary Sturley, was represented by her solicitor, who asked for postponement of sentence until after her release. He said that an appeal was to have

been made to the Court of Criminal Appeal, against the sentence, but that the woman had been persuaded by the wardresses to abandon it. He was preparing a petition to the Home Secretary, as he thoroughly believed in her innocence and thought the jury prejudiced from beginning to end. The Board decided that it could not revise the decision of the Court, and removed her name from the Roll, but added that she could re-apply.

BABY WEEK.

The Prime Minister has consented to act as President of the National Committee organizing "Baby Week," which is to begin on Sunday, July 1st.

PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME.

Sunday.—Special sermons in all churches and special lessons in Sunday schools with reference to child welfare. At all the cinema houses, one film relating to this subject.

Monday.—Central Child Welfare Exhibition.

Tuesday.—A meeting of Health Associations at the Guildhall; speakers, Lord Rhondda (Chairman of the Committee) and Mr. H. A. L. Fisher.

Wednesday.—Special cinema and theatre matinees.

Thursday.—"Open day" at all schools for mothers, crèches and nursery schools.

Friday.—A special day in all schools, with mothercraft classes open to the public.

Saturday.—A large garden party meeting, probably at the Botanical Gardens.

A similar programme will be followed in all the big cities.

It is computed that, as the result of similar weeks held in Paris, Copenhagen, and the United States of America, the lives of many babies have been saved.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE.

At a recent meeting of the Nottinghamshire County Council, at which Lord Galway presided, the Public Health Committee presented a scheme relative to maternity and child welfare, providing for the appointment of a medical woman to undertake the organisation of maternity and infant welfare centres, and to act as superintendent inspector of midwives, and incorporating the provisions that the Council appoint and pay such health visitors and nurses as may be necessary, and that steps be taken to establish maternity and infant welfare centres in districts where the work is not already being carried out, the Council to provide a sum not exceeding £800 per annum from the county rate, the rate being levied on the districts benefited. It is hoped to bring the scheme into operation gradually, the centres to be increased as experience is gained and the need arises.

The latest form of leave in the Army is "cradle leave." It is only granted as a special dispensation to officers on active service who have had children born during their absence at the front.

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PRIZE COMPETITION.

COUPON, March 31st, 1917.

Name of Competitor

Address

RULES FOR COMPETITION.

1. Any reader of THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF NURSING may compete for the prize of FIVE SHILLINGS which will be paid to the writer of the best article of from 300 to 750 words on the following subject—"How would you render first aid to a patient suffering from burns in a workman's cottage, where few remedies were available, and what steps would you take to ensure the efficient nursing of the patient?"

The dated Coupon for March 31st, published on this page, must be cut out by the Competitor, and enclosed with the article she sends, with her full name and address inserted. The number of words of article to be written on left hand top corner of first page. This answer should be posted not later than March 31st, to the Editor, 20, Upper Wimpole St., London, W. 1, marked on the envelope "Prize Competition." The Name of the Winner of the Prize and the Prize Article will appear on April 7th, 1917.

2. The Editor's decision must be accepted by each Competitor as final and unquestionable.



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This is the photograph of my baby Clarice. She is 10 months old and entirely breast-fed. When she was 2 months old I was so ill and weak that it was difficult for me even to walk, and I was unable to feed her any longer. Virol was recommended to me, and on taking it I was delighted to find how much stronger I soon became, and also that it enabled me to feed baby again. She is now a fine, happy child, weighs 25 lbs., and has several teeth, and my own health has improved wonderfully.—Yours truly,

ETHEL THOMAS.

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 DR. FELDMAN, Lecturer in Midwifery and Hygiene for the London County Council.

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